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BY

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Of Stanford University

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DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF HALF-BEAK HEMIRAMPHUS MIOPRORUS) FROM NAGASAKI, JAPAN.

By David Starr Jordan and Mary C. Dickerson.
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We here present a description of an interesting new species of Half-beak, obtained at Nagasaki in Japan, by Mr. Richard C. McGregor.

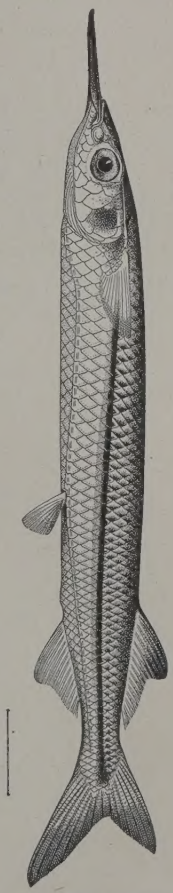
HEMIRAMPHUS MIOPRORUS Jordan and Dickerson, new species.

Head $4\frac{3}{4}$ in length (from end of upper jaw to base of caudal); head with beak $2\frac{7}{8}$ in same length measurement; depth $8\frac{1}{2}$. Mandible 9 in total (from end of mandible to tips of median rays); mandible from posterior angle of mouth equals distance from same point to edge of opercle. Upper jaw broad, rounded, its width greater than its length. Gill rakers x+18, the longest one-sixth diameter of eye.

Dorsal 16; anal 16. Dorsal and anal nearly equal in size and nearly opposite; anal slightly posterior to dorsal. Insertion of ventrals midway between tips of median caudal rays and middle of eye, between insertion of lower lobe of caudal and edge of opercle. Length of base of dorsal $1\frac{1}{8}$ times length of beak beyond end of upper jaw. Insertion of anal to ventrals equal to distance from tip of beak to anterior margin of eye. Caudal deeply forked, the lower lobe produced, its length (from insertion) equaling the distance between ventrals and anal. Length of middle caudal rays equal to the vertical diameter of the eye. Length of pectoral equal to length of mandible beyond the upper jaw.

Scale 56. Head scaled to tip of upper jaw, scales on occiput scarcely imbricated; 38 scales in a median series on back between occiput and front of dorsal.

Color in spirits brown, lighter below. Beak and top of head blackish, upper part of lobe of



Hemiramphus mioprorus.

dorsal black, tips of caudal edged with blackish. A narrow, dark lateral stripe without silvery stripe below it, there being no trace of the usual silvery band. Margins of all dorsal scales outlined by dark pigment spots in the skin. Pectoral pale.

Type.—Cat. No. 61053, U.S.N.M. Described from a specimen 20 centimeters in length, from Nagasaki, Japan. (Collected November, 1901, by Richard Crittenden McGregor.)

The species is characterized at once in the genus by its short beak, large scales and robust form. It differs from *H. sajori*, the other member of the genus known from Nagasaki, especially in the very much larger scales, as well as in the much shorter beak. It differs also in a darker, less metallic coloration, in a rounded instead of an acute upper jaw and in the less elongate body.

Hemiramphus kurumeus, from Chikugo River, in the same island of Kiusiu, is a fresh-water fish, also large-scaled, but slenderer, with much longer beak. *H. occipitalis* Gill, from Shimoda, seems to be the young of *H. sajori*, although its scales are not described. *Hemiramphus japonicus*, from the Riu Kiu Islands, is a typical *Hemiramphus* with short anal, inserted under middle of dorsal, and the ventrals farther back. *Hemiramphus mioprorus*, with *sajori* and *kurumeus*, belongs to the subgenus *Hyporhamphus*, characterized by the large size of the anal fin, which is as long as the dorsal, and by the anterior insertion of the ventral fins.